

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 IO-12 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 DPW-01 OMB-01 AID-20

ACDA-19 RSR-01 /160 W

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P R 1025 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1467

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

USUN NY 0530

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 SAIGON 8238

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR VS

SUBJECT: GVN REPLY TO DRV NOTE

REF: (A) STATE 074571; (B) SAIGON 6921

SUMMARY: MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) TODAY GAVE US
OUR COPY OF ITS NOTE REPLYING TO APRIL 16 DRV NOTE. TEST
WITH EIGHT (8) PARTS FOLLOWS BELOW, BEING NUMBERED AS IN
ORIGINAL NOTE. WE HAVE ADDED LETTER INDICATORS FOR EACH
PARAGRAPH FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES. IN ORIGINAL THESE
PARAGRAPHS ARE UNNUMBERED BEING MERELY SUB- SECTIONS OF THE
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EIGHT NUMBERED PARTS. END SUMMARY. BEGIN QUOTE: NO: 288/
BNG/ NCST/ M - THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF
VIET- NAM PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICAN AND WITH REFERENCE TO THE NOTE

DATED APRIL 16, 1973 THAT THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM SENT TO SOME SIGNATORIES OF THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET- NAM, HAS THE HONOR TO COMMUNICATE THE FOLLOWING:

1. A. IT CLEARLY APPEARS THAT THE NOTE OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM HAD NO PURPOSE OTHER THAN PROPAGANDA, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM DEPLORES THIS FACT. IN ORDER TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT, HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM FEELS THAT IT IS OBLIGATED TO POINT OUT THE OVERWHELMING RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM AND THE SO- CALLED NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT IN CREATING AND MAINTAINING THE VERY UNSATISFACTORY SITUATION PRESENTLY OBTAINING IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM.

B. WITHIN THREE MONTHS, THAT IS FROM THE ENTRY INTO EFFECT OF THE CEASE- FIRE UP TO APRIL 26, 1973, THE COMMUNIST SIDE PERPETRATED A TOTAL OF 12,180 VIOLATIONS INCLUDING 6,097 SHELLINGS AND 2,756 ATTACKS WITH REGIMENT, BATTALION AND EVEN DIVISION SIZE TO ENCROACH UPON THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM. THE MOST TYPICAL OF THESE WERE THEIR ATTACKS AT CUA- VIET, SA- HUYNH THE SUB- SECTION OF TAN- CHAU (CHAU- DOC), NUI GIO BASE (THUA- THIEN) AND THE DISTRICT TOWN OF TRI- TON (CHAU DOC). ONE RANGERS' BASE OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM, TONG- LE- CHAN (BINH- LONG PROVINCE), IS STILL UNDER SIEGE AT THIS MOMENT.

C. THE COMMUNISTS HAVE ALSO ATTACKED INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING PROCEEDING FROM THE IGH SEAS TO THE KHMER REPUBLIC ALONG THE MEKONG RIVER WHICH HAS BEEN DECLARED AN INTERNATIONAL WATERWAYS BY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT.

2. A. DURING THESE PAST THREE MONTHS THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM WAS ALSO KNOWN TO HAVE INFILTRATED MILITARY PERSONNEL, AMMUNITION AND ARMAMENTS INTO SOUTH VIET- NAM IN A STEADY MANNER AND IN DIRECT VIOLATION OF ARTICLES 7 AND 20 OF THE 1973 PARIS AGREEMENT ON RESTORING PEACE IN VIET- NAM.

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B. THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD, MORE THAN 50,000 NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS HAVE MOVED FROM NORTH VIET- NAM INTO SOUTH VIET- NAM EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH LAOS AND CAMBODIA. NEW NORTH VIETNAMESE ANTI- AIRCRAFT AND ARTILLERY UNITS WERE PROGRESSIVELY DEPLOYED IN SOUTH VIET- NAM, WELL AFTER THE CEASEFIRE. FOUR HUNDRED (400) TANKS AND ARMORED VEHICLES, THREE HUNDRED (300) ARTILLERY PIECES, AND A VAST QUANTITY OF AMMUNITION WERE AMONG THE SUPPLIES DETECTED AS THEY WERE CONVEYED INTO SOUTH VIET- NAM FROM NORTH VIET- NAM. THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM WISHES TO POINT OUT THAT THE AIRSTRIP AT KHE- SANH HAS EVEN BEEN EQUIPPED WITH NEW SA-2 MISSILES THE PURPOSE OF WHICH IS OBVIOUSLY HOSTILE TO THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM.

3. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM CONTINUES TO EXPAND AND EXTEND THE ROAD AND DRAINAGE SYSTEM ON HIGHWAYS 7, 4 AND 4/7. THERE ARE ALSO INDICATIONS THAT A ROAD IS BEING CONSTRUCTED TO JOIN SOUTHERN LAOS WITH THE TWO WOUTH VIETNAMESE PROVINCES OF QUANG- TRI AND QUANG- NGAI, ACROSS THE LAOS- SOUTH VIET- NAM BORDER. THE ABOVE MENTIONED EFFORTS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM TO BUILD A SERIES OF ROAD NETWORK, NOWHERE NEAR AN ENTRY POINT, COULD ONLY BE INTERPRETED AS A DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO SMUGGLE MILITARY SUPPLIES INTO THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM, IN BLATANT VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 20 OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

4. A. THE TERRITORIES OF THE KINGDOM OF LAOS AND OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC CONTINUE TO BE USED BY THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM, WHICH HAS STEADILY REINFORCED ITS OWN MANPOWER AND SUPPLY POTENTIALS THERE. IT COULD BE SAID THAT DURING THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THE CEASEFIRE, OVER 26,000 TONS OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN MOVED FROM NORTH VIET- NAM INTO LAOS, AND ON THE 17,000 TRUCK MOVEMENTS NOTED DURING THAT PERIOD, 7,000 ARE DIRECT MOVEMENTS INTO THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM ACROSS THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE ON THE 17 TH PARALLEL, IN VIOLATION OF ARTICLES 7 AND 20.

B. MOREOVER, THE ATTACKS BY ANTI- GOVERNMENT FORCES IN LAOS AND THE KHMER REPUBLIC, PAKSONG (FEBRUARY 23,1973), THA VIENG (APRIL 13, 1973), THE PROVINCIAL CITY TAKEO AND THE POCHENTONG AIRPORT (26 AND 27 APRIL 1973), TO QUOTE A FEW CASES, WERE DIRECTLY SUPPORTED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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THESE FACTS, WHICH ARE ALREADY WIDELY KNOWN, SHOW THE LITTLE CONCERN THAT THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM ATTACKES TO THE RESPECT OF THE INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY, UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF LAOS AND CAMBODIA, AS STIPULATED IN ARTICLE
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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 DPW-01 OMB-01 AID-20

ACDA-19 RSR-01 /160 W

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P R 101025 Z MAU 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1468
INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USDEL JEC PARIS
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 SAIGON 8238

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (P A R A 6 S U B P A R A D)

E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PFOR VS
SUBJECT: GVN REPLY TO DRV NOTE

REF: (A) STATE 074571; (B) SAIGON 6921

5. A. WITH REGARD TO THE QUESTION OF PRISONERS, THE
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM AND THE OTHER SOUTH VIETNAMESE
PARTY, BY REFUSING TO RELEASE ALL MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PRISONERS
WITHIN THE SIXTY DAYS STIPULATED BY THE PARIS AGREEMENT, HAVE
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SHOWN THEIR LACK OF GOODWILL IN AN ISSUE WHICH SHOULD HAVE
BEEN DELETED OF ALL POLITICAL CONTROVERSY.

B. OUT OF 31,818 MILITARY PERSONNEL OF THE REPUBLIC
OF VIET- NAM CAPTURED BY THE COMMUNIST SIDE, ONLY 4,608 HAVE
BEEN RELEASED UP TO THIS DATE. THE RELEASE OPERATIONS WERE
IN FACT EXTREMELY SLOW AND DIFFICULT, MAINLY BECAUSE THE
COMMUNISTS WANTED TO EXPLOIT THE ISSUE, MOST THE TIME AS A
MEANS OF POLITICAL WARFARE, SOMETIMES AS A CUNNING
MILITARY TRICK. THUS AT THE TWO RELEASE SITES OF BAU CAN
(PLEIKU) AND DUC PHO (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE), THE COMMUNISTS USED
THE RELEASE OPERATIONS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEIZE TERRITORIES
WHICH WERE UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL.

C. ON THE ISSUE OF CIVILIAN PERSONNEL OSMTHE
REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM CAPTURED BY THE COMMUNIST SIDE, WHICH IS
CONSERVATIVELY ESTIMATED AT 16,798, THE FIGURES ORIGINALLY GIVEN
BY THE COMMUNISTS WERE 140, THEN RAISED TO 200, 400, 428 AND
FINALLY 637. THE FEW HUNDRED ALREADY RELEASED SUFFERED VERY
GRAVE MALTREATMENT IN COMMUNIST JAIL. IN THIS CASE, THE
COMMUNISTS' ATTITUDE SEEMS NOTEWORTHY BOTH FOR THEIR LACK OF

ANY HUMANITARIAN CONCERN AND FOR THE ABSENCE OF ANY SERIOUSNESS, NOT TO MENTION THE FACT THAT THE COMMUNIST SIDE HAS ALTOGETHER IGNORED ARTICLE 8 OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

6. A. THERE WAS SYSTEMATIC OBSTRUCTION BY THE COMMUNIST SIDE AT THE FOUR- PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION AS WELL AS THE TWO- PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION. PROCEDURAL MATTERS WERE ALLOWED TO HINDER THE WORK OF BOTH COMMISSIONS; THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT EVEN SENT ABROAD GENERAL TRAN VAN TRA, ITS CHIEF DELEGATE TO THE TWO- PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION, IMMEDIATELY AFTER ITS INAUGURAL SESSION ON 29 MARCH 1973 AND TO DATE GENERAL TRA HAS NOT RETURNED.

B. WHEN THE FOUR- PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION BEGAN ITS WORK, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM NOT ONLY REFUSED TO DEPLOY ALL ITS REGIONAL TEAMS BUT ALSO WITHDREW ITS PERSONNEL FROM THE HUE AND DANANG REGIONS. AS FOR THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT ITS REPRESENTATIVES WERE PRESENT ONLY IN FOUR REGIONS OUT OF SEVEN. NONE OF THE TWO COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS HAD ANY REPRESENTATIVE IN THE 26 SUB- REGIONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TEAMS.

C. AT THE PRESENT TIME THEY DO NOT HAVE ANY PERSONNEL OUTSIDE OF SAIGON, EVEN THOUGH THE TWO PARTIES HAD AGREED TO HAVE ALTOGETHER FROM 1,200 TO 1,5000 PERSONNEL IN WHICH THE TWO- PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION CENTRAL DELEGATION COMPRISES 240.

D. BUT THE WORST VIOLATIONS BY THE COMMUNISTS ARE RELATED TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND SUPERVISION (ICCS). HELICOPTERS, VEHICLES, OFFICES OF THE ICCS HAVE BEEN FIRED UPON, IN TAN- KHAI (BINH- LONG PROVINCE), HOI- AN (QUANG- NAM PROVINCE), CAN THO (PHONG- DINH PROVINCE), TRI- TON (CHAU- DOC PROVINCE), HONG- NGU (KIEN- PHONG PROVINCE). IN ONE DRAMATIC CASE, THE COMMUNIST FORCES FIRED SMALL ARMS AT TWO ICCS HELICOPTERS AND BROUGHT ONE DOWN WITH ONE HEAT- SEEKING MISSILE, IN THE LAO- BAO AREA (PROVINCE OF QUANG- TRI). ALL NINE PERSONS WERE KILLED INCLUDING CANADIAN AND HUNGARIAN ICCS PERSONNEL, AMERICAN AND FILIPINO CREWMEN, AND ONE NLF CADRE WHO WAS ACTING AS NAVIGATOR. SINCE THEN THE INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN DELIBERATELY HAMPERED BY THE COMMUNIST SIDE. IN THIS SITUATION, IT COULD BE SAID THAT THE WHOLE PEACE- KEEPING MACHINERY ESTABLISHED BY THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND ITS PROTOCOLS HAS BEEN IGNORED BY THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM REGARDS THIS AS A CLEAR INDICATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM' S UNWILLINGNESS TO RESPECT THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND ITS PROTOCOLS.

7. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM WISHES TO

REITERATE ITS DETERMINATION OF SERIOUSLY IMPLEMENTING ALL PROVISIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON ENDING THE WAR AND RESTORING PEACE IN VIET- NAM, INCLUDING THOSE RELATED TO THE HOLDING OF CONSULTATIONS WITH THE OTHER SOUTH VIETNAMESE PARTY IN A SPIRIT OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND CONCORD. A COMPREHENSIVE DRAFT AGREEMENT PROMOTING GENERAL ELECTIONS IN SOUTH VIET- NAM WAS ALREADY FORMALLY INTRODUCED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM ON 25 TH APRIL 1973; IT IS HOPED THAT THE DRAFT AGREEMENT COULD BE USED AS A BASIS TO REACH AN ACCORD ON A POLITICAL SOLUTION FOR SOUTH VIET- NAM BY PEACEFUL MEANS, AND WITH THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIET- NAM.

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8. A. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM TRUSTS THAT THE FOREGOING STATEMENT HAS SHOWN THAT ALL CHARGES LEVIED AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM BY THE 16 APRIL 1973 NOTE FROM THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM ARE WITHOUT FOUNDATION, AND THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM REJECTS ALL THESE FALLACIOUS CHARGES. FURTHERMORE, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM WISHES TO APPEAL TO ALL SIGNATORIES OF THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET- NAM TO HELP IN PERSUADING THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM TO CEASE ITS WAR PREPARATIONS, FOR, IF SUCCESSFUL, SUCH AN ACTION WILL BE THE SINGLE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO ENSURE THAT THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON ENDING THE WAR AND RESTORING PEACE IN VIET- NAM IS FULLY EXECUTED.

B. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERAT

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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